

This publication is provided jointly from the WIA Local Workforce Investment Boards representing Maricopa County and the City of Phoenix.
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In response to a recent Rapid Response/WIA Transition Service — "...the feedback from the individuals attending the Transition Center has been very appreciative of the content of the workshops and resources available through Maricopa Workforce Connections. Thank you for providing your services and great staff for our workforce transition program." — Deputy HR Director, City of Glendale.

FACTS & FIGURES

Employers recruiting at the May Military/Veteran Career Fair:
anticipated hiring of at least one candidate, with 39% reporting more than 6 new hires were likely!

NEWS & MEDIA



Changes in unemployment benefits could affect thousands

By Lindsey Reiser, KPHO CBS 5 News (6/13/12) MWC assisted with this news piece.

Recent, soon-to-be college grads find career fairs an important tool

By Stephanie Russo, *The Arizona Republic* (6/28/12)

Excerpt: "Students nearing the end of their college careers might live in fear of their graduation day. To many who earn diplomas during the economy's weak recovery, graduation means unemployment."

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

"Many companies offer companywide career fairs, and such organizations as Goodwill host fairs featuring a variety of employers."

"Phoenix Workforce Connection and Maricopa Workforce Connections have programs geared toward younger job seekers through such organizations as Arizona Call-A-Teen Youth Resources Inc. Phoenix hosted the Youth Career Exploration & Job Fair for job hunters between ages 14-21 on June 15."

State facing cuts in unemployment benefits

By Associated Press (6/13/12)

Excerpt: "PHOENIX - Thousands of out-of-work Arizona residents are facing a loss of benefits this summer as Congress aims to cut long-term assistance to the unemployed. The state Department of Economic Security planned this week to begin notifying people affected by the loss of weeks' worth of benefits, *The Arizona Republic* reported."

"DES estimated the number of residents looking for work at about 223,700- more than the number of people receiving aid. Those who will lose their unemployment benefits this summer are likely workers who need expert assistance in job searching, according to some staffing agencies."



"People who had been in jobs for longer periods of time who got laid off are not as acclimated to today's job market," said Kathy Thiessen, a supervisor at Phoenix Workforce Connection, one of the workforce agencies that will counsel workers who will lose benefits."



Phoenix's Ocotillo Library to celebrate reopening

Workforce Literacy Center added as part of branch's \$1.65M, 9-month renovation

By Connie Cone Sexton - *The Arizona Republic* | [azcentral.com](#) (6/8/12)

Excerpt: "Ocotillo librarian Maria Dominguez said the Workforce Literacy Center will assist job seekers with workforce needs by serving as an "ACCESS Point" in partnership with the city-run Phoenix Workforce Connection, which offers help for job seekers. The center helps people with resume writing, interviewing skills and computer use to English as a second language."



Submitted by:

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Director of Talent
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On behalf of: MWC Board Members

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Human Resources, Pro's Ranch Markets

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*Collaboratively providing workforce
solutions to businesses and
individuals throughout
Maricopa County.*

Summer jobs for Arizona teens more scarce than anywhere else — Teens struggle to find summer jobsBy Michelle Reese, *Tribune, The Associated Press contributed to this report.* (6/15/12)

Excerpt: "Justin Jones, training and assessment supervisor for Maricopa Workforce Connections, said more teens are coming in to the group's Gilbert One Stop Location or its youth center, located in Mesa Public Library.

"Jones said part of the reason may be because the teens are not having luck finding work on their own. "Finding the jobs has been challenging because there's so much more competition. It's the trickle-down effect. Because the labor market is a little stretched, more senior people are willing to take jobs for lesser pay. That edges out the opportunities for teens," Jones said.

"Maricopa Workforce Connections held a summer job fair in the spring to help teens looking for work. Jobs available included typical summer fare: restaurant staff, working in childcare settings and lifeguarding, Jones said. ...Jones said Maricopa Workforce Connections offers youth classes in job seeking, resume writing, interviewing and more. ..."There is help and we would love to be able to help them. Even if they're not sure what they want, check out our One Stop Centers or the youth centers. There's lots of information that can be helpful."

PARTNER ITEMS**Partnership covers student tuition for Energy Industry Technician training program**

An Estrella Mountain Community College News Release

Excerpt: "AVONDALE, Arizona – June 18, 2012 – The new Industrial Electronics Technology program at Estrella Mountain Community College's (EMCC) SouthWest Skill Center (SWSC) has been approved to use State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) federal grant funds to assist eligible students with the cost of tuition and other fees.



"Students who successfully complete the Industrial Electronics Technology (IET) program will not only receive a Certificate of Completion from the SouthWest Skill Center, they will also receive portable, industry-recognized credentials from NCCER, the National Center for Construction Education and Research, in the Industrial Maintenance Electrical and Instrumentation Technician program.

"The area of maintenance and repair is expected to grow rapidly in the next several years nationally and here in Arizona," said Patrick Burkhart who oversees Maricopa Workforce Connections. "This program will prepare students for new and emerging resulting careers in our 'greener economy.'"

Walmart grant to fund summer jobs for teensBy Stephanie Russo, *The Arizona Republic* | azcentral.com (6/13/12)

Excerpt: "The Walmart Foundation awarded a \$500,000 grant to Phoenix to provide workforce-development training and summer jobs to 312 young adults in the city. The foundation chose Phoenix-based Arizona Call-A-Teen Youth Resources Inc. to receive the funds as a part of its 2012 Summer Youth Employment Initiative, which began Monday."

"The opportunities are very limited for young people in the Greater Metro Phoenix area, and it's very important that we are able to offer this," said ACYR Executive Director Pam Smith. "It is disappointing that we can't offer more spots. I have to praise the Walmart Foundation for committing to the Greater Phoenix Area. This is just about the only thing going for summer employment this year.

"ACYR will work with the Phoenix and Maricopa Workforce Connections and the Phoenix Community Development and Investment Corporation for the Summer Youth Employment Initiative. Phoenix College and SouthWest Skill Center will provide educational courses for the students to develop skill sets required for work."

**Five Community Organizations Will Share \$4.9 Million Grant to Enhance Arizona's Health Care Workforce —**

"PHOENIX, June 14, 2012 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ -- Five diverse community organizations - Banner Health, Chicanos Por La Causa, Maricopa Workforce Connections, the Arizona State University College of Nursing and Health Innovations, and the Arizona Diversity Business Development Center - will collaborate as partners on a \$4.96 million, four-year grant to enhance Arizona's health care workforce and provide career trajectory for nurses and nurse assistants in the state.

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

"The Arizona Business Diversity Center will work with Chicanos Por La Causa, Banner Health, Maricopa Workforce Connections and the Arizona State University College of Nursing and Health Innovations to provide Bachelor's of Science and advanced degrees with Project MADE."

Matt Haldane, Editorial Intern. *Phoenix Business Journal* (6/13/12)

To "fill the void" left behind by the Banner staff moving up, Castillo said Chicanos por la Causa and Maricopa Workforce Connection will work to identify new candidates looking to start careers in health care.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES**Military/Veteran Career Fair—May 2012** A brief provided by Arizona Coalition for Veteran Families

A Military/Veteran Career Fair was held at Chase Field in Phoenix, Ariz., on May 27, 2012. The event took place on a game day and was located in the suites above right field. The more than 125 job seekers had open access to meet with the 23 participating employers from 9 to 11 a.m. *TriWest Healthcare Alliance sponsored the event, including the space for the Career Fair and game tickets for service members, veterans and their families.*

MWC and PWC focus on increasing the wealth of individuals, businesses, and the community by identifying labor market needs to develop effective, innovative responses to meet the ever changing industry demands.

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